





## Intimations.

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CREMES.

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GUAVA, and other FRUIT JELLIES in great

variety.

TOM SMITH'S CHRISTMAS CRACKERS.

COLOURED OPALS mounted in Flash,

representing favourite subjects.

A large assortment of ENGLISH and

JAPANESE CHRISTMAS CARDS, of hand-

some and artistic designs, suitable to all tastes,

and at moderate prices.

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THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

Hongkong, 1st November, 1891.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is requested that all communications relating to Subscriptions,

Advertisements, &c., be addressed to "The Manager, Hongkong

Telegraph" and not to the Editor.

Letters on Editorial matters to be sent to "The Editor" and

not to individual members of the staff.

Communications intended for publication must be accompanied

by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for

publication, but as evidence of good faith.

While the columns of the Hongkong Telegraph will always

be open for the free discussion of all questions of all

sorts, it is requested that all communications be sent to the

Editor, and not to individual members of the staff.

There is one feature of his (Digby's, not Barney's) character that is specially interesting. Many of the good works effected under him (how often do we have a Governor of whom we could say "many" of his "good" works?) have been really brought about by what he said, though he seemed to be speaking for the Government and against those very reforms. How is this? He pretended to support Mr. Mitchell-Innes entirely, or to be entirely led by him, in the historical series of snarls at the unofficers "whose services were better dispensed with," for His Excellency more than once made remarks as to factious and obstructive tactics; yet now that it is all over, it is plain that he was, whether consciously or not, really helping greatly to give the unofficers the fair hearing so outrageously denied them. He saw what Mr. WHITEHEAD was getting at; he was not misled by that unfortunate style which is our Tribune's only drawback; no, the General could see below the surface, could appreciate honest endeavours, and he contrived to add them in spite of the Official Mules. In such a spirit, with a Governor like Major General DIBBY BARKER, all these petty squabbles would soon disappear, all trivial and merely superficial faults—of judgment, of manner, of every sort—would be overlooked without waste of time and temper, and real business would be facilitated as it never has been in the Hongkong Legislature for a long time.

Take yesterday's Council meeting (which we reproduce in full to-day) as an example. It is, though long, well worth reading carefully all through, for every feature of Hongkong government is there. Mr. WHITEHEAD is there with a long speech—not well worded, not well delivered, truly; but showing in every sentence hard work, careful thought, painful earnestness for the public good. Mr. GOODMAN is there also, to the life—honest and well meaning, but ally, childish, petulant and unutterably ridiculous. His Excellency's speech illustrates admirably the feature mentioned above. Ostensibly he opposed this reform, and as a matter of form he rejected the motion; but his words support it. He made three points—(1) that the accusation that cadets were unloaded on us like German princelets on English taxpayers, was incorrect; (2) that opium revenue was not over-estimated; (3) that "land sales" and "licences" had not been over-estimated. Closer inspection shows (1) that his Excellency had himself found it necessary quite lately to request the stoppage of the Cadet Nuisance; (2) that Mr. WHITEHEAD's error as to opium resulted from the farmer's inability to pay up this year's money, and that this serious fact had been carefully concealed by—well, if it is a fair question—who was the criminal that added and debited this fraud? (3) as to land sales and licence fees, Mr. WHITEHEAD was substantially correct. So, then, that is the way in which our "simple soldier" works, more subtly than Mark Antony himself, leading round by inference to the way—which straightforward advocacy would never reach. Most heartily we congratulate him on his success, and sincerely and warmly thank him for his share in the governing of Hongkong. "How far I have succeeded in this I must leave to others to judge." Judgment—Admirably!

## TELEGRAMS.

## EGYPTIAN FINANCE.

LONDON, December 5th.

The Egyptian Budget for 1892 will show a surplus of £500,000.

## OBITUARY.

The ex-Empress of Brazil, Don Pedro II.

## LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE *Daima*, *Fidello* and *Oscar* have

been docked at Kowloon to-day, for cleaning and

repairs.

THE export of curios from Yokohama, according

to the *Tokyo Mainichi Shimbun*, grows steadily

less. The reason given is deterioration in

quality and design.

WE are informed by the agents of the Austro-

Hungarian Lloyd's S. N. Co. that the Company's

steamer *Maria Teresa* left Singapore for this

port at 6 p.m. yesterday.

THE agents (Messrs. Dodwell, Carill & Co.)

inform us that the R.M.S. *Empress of Japan*

left Shanghai this morning, and is due here at 11 a.m. on Thursday.

THE *Kobe Chronicle* learns on the best authority

that the action of the late manager of the Hongo Hotel against the directors for wrongful dismissal has been settled out of court, on the payment to Mr. Dyer of a very substantial sum.

A new journal is about to be established in Tokyo which will have the name of *Sun Tatsu* or the "One-Inch Iron." The iron is to be directed against the Government. (Some Governments do require a crowbar to let loose into them.)

THE verdict of the case of the negro Smith, charged with an assault on the *Rissa Olorata* kind, taken from jail, and hanged by a mob, was (according to the *New York Herald*) that Smith was "frightened to death by unknown persons."

THE *Mercury* notes the departure of Mr. H. Norman, the eminent journalist, per steamship *Newchwang* for Tientsin. A prominent member of the London Press, Mr. Kinnear of the *Chronicle*, arrived in Shanghai on the 2nd inst. from the North.

ABOUT half a million piculs of Northern produce were awaiting shipment in Newchwang, when a port suddenly closed. It appears that everything was to have been the *Longhai* from going on to the Newchwang bar, but she was carried helplessly, there by the ice.

AT the regular meeting of the Lodge "Star of Southern China," No. 203, E.C., held in the Freemasons' Hall, Canton, on the 5th inst. W. Bro. O. Möller was elected Worshipful Master; Bro. Karamia was elected Treasurer, and Bro. Halberg Tyler for the ensuing year.

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THE *Empress of Japan* with Sir W. Robinson

on board, is expected at 11 a.m. on Thursday.

THE Willard Opera Company has practically

broken up in Singapore, the leading soprano, Miss Alice St. John, the chief tenor, Mr. William Walsh, and nearly the whole of the chorus having found it necessary to leave Mr. Willard under circumstances which are partly explained by the exceptionally bad business done by the Company, and partly by the fact that the Company are understood to complain very bitterly of the treatment they have received.

Miss Alice St. John, upon whom, as a soprano, so much of the heavy work of the recent tour has fallen, is desirous of getting up a benefit performance here, probably of "Trial by Jury," with amateur assistance, to enable her to proceed home to Australia. Mr. Walsh will also take part. Miss St. John, we trust, will find that the sympathy of those who have so often enjoyed her singing will take a practical form, and that any benefit performance she may give here will be heartily supported.—*Free Press*.

THAT there is at least one bright jewel in every ten thousand of the "heavenly choir" is forcibly exemplified by the revelations recently published in Shanghai relative to the way in which a poor, rich, a journalist, and this is again illustrated to-day in the spontaneous and public expression of true gratitude exhibited by Yang Yat, the master of coal junk No. 66, who was rescued by Lt. Comr. L. K. Bell of H. M. S. *Plow* during the night of the 3rd inst. when his junk foundered in the storm. Fung Yat came to this office voluntarily yesterday and requested us to insert his statement as an advertisement in three consecutive issues of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, and to acknowledge the dollars to pay for the desired publicity. He plaintively told our interpreter that he would have given the money to Mr. Bell if he could. Failing that, he gave all the publicity he could by inserting his story in our advertisement columns where it now is. We have only to add that we trust Commander Bell's plucky conduct will be recognised by the Royal Humane Society in due course.

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and in return for this money the ratpayers have had the privilege, the honour, and the benefit of the Governor's presence in the Colony for four years and six weeks, on an average.

His Excellency has been in the Colony attending to his duties for five months out of every twelve. I very much fear these two Governors have unintentionally and unwittingly done the Colony and the ratpayers some harm and some injustice by writing and talking up the Colony in brilliant despatches and otherwise. They failed, I think, to realise our true position, which I can assure Your Excellency is not a strong one, and I say so without fear of contradiction. The outcome of this boasting and bragging has resulted in increased Imperial military exactions, arbitrarily seized and unjustly taken from the Treasury by means of the more numerous official visits and inopportunities to the views and wishes of every ratpayer in the Colony. There is a strong feeling in the city that a number of Government offices might well and usefully be abolished, including that of the Registrar-General, and the work redistributed among other offices, while others might well be amalgamated.

The Chamber of Commerce expressed their views in no uncertain terms a few months ago, when they sent a letter to the Government with regard to the registering of cargo boats etc.—"This branch of the service was conducted by the Registrar-General's department, and it appears anomalous that work so intimately connected with the Harbour Department should be done by a branch of the service so unconnected, apparently, to conduct the operations required of it. The additional work, if thrown on the Harbour Master's department, to grant these three forms of certificates, could easily be performed without further aid of any kind, at the most trifling assistance only would be needed by that branch. The cargo boat strike is well within the memory of my Committee. It arose from injudicious action on the part of the Government. His Excellency called to his aid, one afternoon, many members of the community, amongst them some of my Committee, to obtain their views on the situation. His Excellency adopted the suggestions that were tendered, and the following morning the strike had disappeared. I think, sir, it has been demonstrated beyond all possibility of doubt that one Police Magistrate can do the work, and do it well and to the satisfaction of everybody, though hitherto we have invariably had two Police Magistrates. The hon. member opposite, the Assistant Harbour Master, seems to have no difficulty whatever in carrying out the duties of Harbour Master, Assistant Harbour Master, Superintendent of the Water Police, and member of this Council. It has also been suggested that the Gaol and Police Magistrate will be put under one head, and the Treasury and Post Office might be put under one head and the Surveyor-General and Water and Drainage departments under another, and so on. Turning to the question of official hours, these are from ten to four. I do not think it would be any great hardship if these were extended from nine or half-past nine to half-past four or five, as in mercant







